

V.D.

A N
A C C O U N T
Of the FAMOUS
Hermaphrodite,
O R,
Parisian BOY-GIRL,
Aged Sixteen,

N A M E D

Michael-Anne Drouart,

At this Time (*November, 1750.*) upon Show
in *Carnaby-Street, London.*

With its Portrait Engraved from the
Life,

By *M. VACHEERIE*, Surgcon,
from *Brussells.*

L O N D O N :

Printed for SAM. JOHNSON, at *Charing-Cross* ; and WILLIAM SMITH, near the *Royal Exchange.*

1872



A N
ACCOUNT
Of the FAMOUS
Hermaphrodite,
O R,
Parisian Boy-Girl, &c.

HE Subject of the following Description is actually now in London, and at this Time in a greater Point of Maturity, and consequently of Perfection, than when it excited the Attention of all the Curious in Paris.

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This Creature is between Sixteen and Seventeen Years of Age, baptized at *Paris*, at the Parish of *St. Margaret*, in the Suburb of *St. Anthony*.

It's Father and Mother, who are still alive, are by Trade Stocking-frame Weavers, and have several Children besides this.

When it was born, it was so strongly marked with the Types or Characters of both the Male and Female Sex, that under the Uncertainty of which it properly belonged to, they gave it the two Christian Names of *Michael* and of *Anne*, which being the one of a Boy, the other of a Girl, together with his Family-name, compose that of *Michael-Anne Drouart*, which it now goes by.

As it grew up, the Predominion which they imagined they observed of the Female Part, determined them to call it a Girl, and accordingly they put it into a Dress agreeable to that Sex, and in due Time put it Apprentice to a Trade which consists in Painting and Colouring Toys, Fans, and the like.

This however proved ineffectual, through the constant Interruptions and Visits which the Report of the Child being an *Hermaphrodite*, drew upon it from all Quarters;

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insomuch that the Parents, who, though not very easy in their Circumstances, had not the least Idea, at that Time of exposing it to View, for any Advantage or Lucre, thought themselves obliged to take it Home. Some Persons only of the first Distinction were admitted to satisfy their Curiosity, and they only, because they were such as could not well be refused.

This Child then growing up to the Age of Puberty, became about Sixteen, an Object so interesting to the public Curiosity, that the Sieur *Gautier*, a celebrated Engraver, painted and graved a Portrait of it, with an Exactness and Beauty, that rendered it the Admiration of all the Curious; which he had the Honour to present to the King of *France*, who received it so graciously, as to appoint him a Pension of six hundred Livres *per Annum*, which he now actually enjoys. This Print is at this Time grown pretty rare.

In the mean time, the Resort and Crowd of Persons who came to the Father's House to satisfy themselves of the Reality of so wonderful a Phenomenon, as an *Hermophrodite*, which wanted so little of Perfection in both the Sexes, grew so troublesome to the Parents, that they were for sending it away, or at least denying the Sight of it to

all Persons whatever, when *M. Fage'aife*, a Surgeon of great Note and Eminence, undertook to keep it at his House, and not suffer it to be fatigued by the Numbers which crowded to visit it.

At Mr. *Fage'aife*'s then once more none were admitted but Persons of the first Rank and Condition, and even of those, there was so great a Concourse, that the Receipt of the Considerations they were pleased to pay, amounted not seldom to thirty *Louis-d'ors per Diem*, during the Heat of the Run, in the Course of which too, several Personages of Names too great and respectable to be here cited, had given this young Creature all the Marks of a tender Humanity and Compassion, for so singular and unfortunate a Distinction, now as fully and manifestly develop'd, as to the external Show, or Appearance, as its Age will permit.

About five Months ago, this extraordinary Creature was persuaded to come to this Capital, where all Curiosities either of Nature or Art find an Encouragement proportionable to their Degrees of Merit : But as there are Numbers of Persons who probably may never have an Opportunity of a personal Visitation, and might yet be glad to have a circumstantial Description of so uncommon a Production of Nature ; the following

lowing one is given with all the Regard to Truth imaginable : insomuch that those who have formerly seen it, before it attained to its present State of more Maturity, may find Particularities to satisfy any Curiosity they might have, to know the Changes and Alterations which Time and Growth have produced in the Appearances of those Parts, they had before viewed.

Michael-Anne-Drouart then, aged as before-noted, between Sixteen and Seventeen, is in Stature above five Foot : slender shaped, and small boned and limbed ; but no farther inclined to Leanness than its growing State seems to allow for, its Bones being reasonably well covered with Flesh. Its Constitution seems to be perfectly lively, and even sprightly. Its Face a longish oval, has nothing extraordinary in it, but rather pretty, with a Turn to female Softness in its Features.

Its Hair, which is pretty short, and of a dark brown, is entirely soft, and like that of a Woman.

Its Bosom, which but a few Months ago had not the least Signs of Breasts, now visibly and sensibly exhibits a Pair, though very small and roundish, crowned with Nipples perfectly of the FemaleMould ; their

their *Areola*, or reddish circular Spot being exactly fashioned as in Virgins of its Age. How far these new dawning Breasts will extend their Size, and enlarge their Appearance, is only in the Womb of Time to discover.

Proceeding downwards, the Navel and Belly, exhibit nothing more than is common to Boys or Girls of its Age.

It's Skin is soft, and its Complexion rather fairer than the Generality of its Nation.

When placed at pleasure in a Position to view, its private Parts, where the material Distinctions center; their first Appearance exhibits to the Eye a *Penis*, of the most perfect Conformation, depending from the *Os Pubis*, or *Share-bone*, which seems placed rather higher than ordinary, as if Nature had managed itself sufficient Room for the Display of both the Sexes. In its natural or unprovoked State the *Penis* appears to be about four Inches, issuing from its Root at the *Os Pubis*, which is now plentifully covered with the *Hebe'*, or hairy Defence natural to those Parts. The Bulb of that Organ terminates without any Difference from the rest of Mankind, in the *Glans* or Nut, which is also equipped like others, with as fair and sliding a Prepuce, as can be imagined.

Hitherto

Hitherto in that Part there is no Difference to the Eye at least, from the most compleat Configuration.

But on a nearer Examination of this *Glans* or *Nut*, otherwise so perfect, although there appears the plainest Marks of a Canal or Fissure opening into the Urethra ; there exists actually no such Passage. It is utterly imperforated, and when by any Influx of the Blood and Spirits, which produce Erection, the whole cavernous Body of the *Penis* becomes turgid, and swoln to a much more considerable Size, especially in its Breadth : This Erection is checked by a *Frenum*, or Bridle, which strongly curbs and contracts it downwards, so as to render it uncapable of Penetration, or Coition, at least in any Degree of Significance, independant even of the greater Obstacle, the want of a proper Passage or Conduit for the Seed.

This *Penis* then occupying the Place of the *Mons Veneris*, and fastened by this Bridle, so that the *Nut* is kept downward, has not the least Appearance of Testicles belonging to it; neither are they to be felt in the Groin ; but in Place of the *Scrotum*, and out of the Skin, which ought to invest the Testicles, are formed and descend the great *Labia* or Lips, between which lies the

the Orifice of the *Vagina*; which Lips being prominent, soft, and flaggy, have not that Firmness which belongs to a Virgin or Girl that has not received Man, and are furnished with Hairs, rather softer and finer than those which grow round the *Os Pubis*, or Root of the Yard.

Now, upon spreading the Thighs, these Lips easily distractile, discover an Aperture, representing the *Vulva* of a very young Girl, or that Orifice of the *Vagina* which is commonly called the external Orifice of the *Matrix*. Neither does it appear to the probing Finger, much or at all straighter than that of a young Girl, who is not yet *viripotent*; and towards the lower Part of the *Rima* or Fissure, one may very plainly descry two Productions, or fleshy Excrecences, whose triangular Figure, and reddish Colour, plain enough point them out for the *Nymphæ*, which in a well constituted Organ, from the Covering or Defence to the *Clitoris*; but as there is no Appearance of that round and glandulous Body in this Subject, which is doubtless absorbed, and supplemented by the *Penis*, these *Nymphæ* appear comparatively small and inconsiderable, though they so far agree with those in Virgins, that they are so firm, hard and solid, that the Urine issues from their Compression with a hissing Noise, and with great Violence.

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It is also plain to the Sense, as the exploring Touch internates within the Passage of the *Vulva*, that the membranous Coat of it, is furnished with those Muscles, which serve in Women to contract, and purse up the *Labia* or *Lips* of the *Vagina*, consequently affording a sensible Compression to any intruded Body.

A little above these *Nymphæ*, or Species of *Nymphæ*, is discovered the opening of the *Canal* or *Conduit* of the *Urethra*, which, on being probed, is found of no greater Length than in Girls; only it is placed lower towards the Aperture of the *Vulva*.

Sounding deeper in, there occur little or no Vestiges of the *Carunculæ Myrtiformes*, which being Productions of those fleshy and circular Wrinkles, that line the whole Length of the *Vagina*, and not remains of the Ruins of the *Hymen*, as some have advanced, (whereas in Truth, these *Caruncles* are not the Effect, but the constituent Cause of the *Hymen*,) are not very palpable in this Subject, and the Reason is plain, in that its *Vagina* or Palate of the *Uvula* is smoother and freer from those membranous Plaits or Wrinkles, which are so essential to the Functions of that Organ, than in Bodies of that Sex, which enjoy a perfect Configuration.

However it is out of Doubt, that the Circumstance of the Urine issuing through this vulvarious Aperture, and its Resemblance to the Appearances in Women, determined the Parents to bestow in its Dress and Treatment the Preference on the Female Sex ; though upon the narrowest Inspection, it is hard to pronounce which of the Sexes predominates.

It is also to be noted, that as Age has ripened, in this Subject, certain humours or Seminal Fluids, whenever they have been by any Accident put so far in Motion as to burst their Repositories, they have no Vent or Passage, but in, and through that Cavity which it has in common with the Female-Sex.

The Figure of its Hips is also such as affords no Solution to the Doubt : For they have not all the Elevation or Protuberance natural to the Female Sex ; nor yet the Make of the Male in that Part, Allowance too being made for the Slendernes of its Person. Its Hands and Arms also partly contribute to fortify this Neutrality, for they are, though inclining somewhat more to the Masculine, than the Female Turn, not enough so, to decide which Sex has a Right to own them.

Its Voice is not so different from that of either Girl or Boy of its Age, as to help any Decision; though, if any Thing it seems to incline to the Female Sound.

Hitherto it has had no menstrual Discharge, as some Girls younger than it have, but, by certain Symptoms, however equivocal, there is some room to conjecture, that it will not want even that Sign of the Female Sex.

But how far this Resemblance to the Sex, supposed to prevail in it by the Parents, extends internally, with regard to the Existence, or Conformation of a *Matrix* or *Uterus*, more capable of the Functions of Generation, than its *Virilia*, which lie open to the Sight, requires a deeper Search, and an Anatomy of the Parts, incompatible with the Tenderness due to a living Subject, as well as a greater Maturity of Age, which may possibly and probably unfold more of these present *Arcana*.

Thus much however is self-evident, that if this *Hermaphrodite* is not what the Greeks understood by their *Androgyne*, that is to say, a human Creature enjoying equally the full Powers of both Sexes, and capable of the double Act of Generation, in the Quality of Man and Woman, there is less wanting in

in this Subject towards this Perfection, than in any that are now known, or perhaps ever did exist on the Earth. A complete *Hermaphrodite*, in the Sense above-mention'd, being treated by most philosophical Enquirers, as an imaginary Being; notwithstanding some Histories, and Relations, in which however the Taste of Mankind for the marvellous appears to have been more consulted than the Truth. *

* It would be unfair to omit here, that it is pretended, that at Lyons, Rue Merciere there exists actually an *Hermaphrodite* truly perfect in both Sexes, but that by the Care of the Parents, who are wealthy Merchants, and who will not permit an authentic Verification thereof, for the Satisfaction of the Public, the Reality of such a compleat double Conformation, must remain undecided.





A D D E N D A.

SINCE the Closure of the foregoing, there has been started an Objection to the Subject above treated off, which merits some Consideration.

It is notorious that some Years ago, there was exhibited to public Inspection, a Negro *Hermophradite* from *Guinea*, whose *Penis* was though not of so perfect a Conformation, as that of the *Parisian* above described, yet so far agreed with it, as to have no Perforation in the Species of *Glans* or Nut thereof, its Urine issuing from the Aperture between the Integument of its Testicles, which last however this Subject is intirely to all outward Appearance destitute of: Though they certainly do exist, from the spermatic Emissions which escape it.

Now there are who pretend that this Aperture, common to both these Subjects, and which exhibits the Appearance and Office

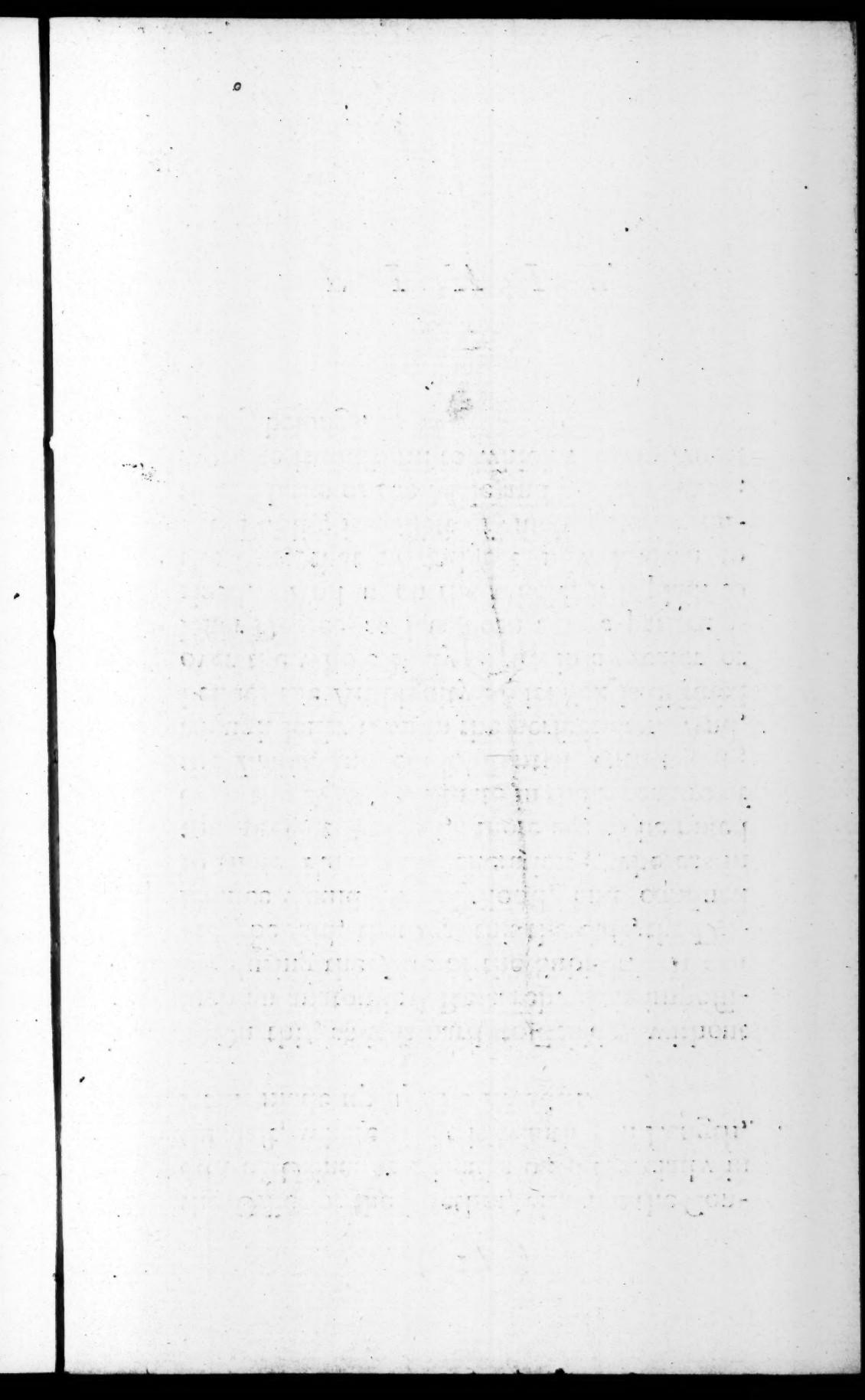
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of a *Vulva*, is in Reality no more than the Orifice of the *Urethra*, or urinary Conduit, which has taken a preternatural Course, and that the Fissure thereof is only larger and more susceptible of the Introduction of a Finger or Probe, than those in a natural State.

This Objection is also enforced by two very strong Reasons.

The First, that the *Frænum* or Bridle of the Preuce, is in both these Subjects strongly contracted downwards, and towards the Opening or Lips of this Fissure, as if by an Effort of Nature to place it in its usual Channell: and also because on sounding within, the Touch discovers little or no Vestiges of those annular, or rather semi-lunar Wrinkles, which in a Female-Subject rightly constituted, line the Vagina or Passage to the Womb.

Second Reason, Both these *Hermaphrodites*, on Examination, declare, that whatever Appearances Nature had given them to the contrary, their Inclinations were mostly, if not intirely decided in Favour of, and towards the Female-Sex; so that this Passage still might be only designed to do
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the Office of the Urethra, either as the Conduit of Urine, or Ejaculation ; especially in this last, where what is wanting in Length, seems made up by the Breadth.

On this, as it is hard to decide, without such an anatomical Research, as is impossible during the Life of the Subject. It can only be said, that was this the Case, the Difference would be only local, and confined to those Parts of Generation ; whereas in the present Subject, there are to be noted even the *Nymphæ* situate in the Aperture of the *Labia*, and consubstantial with them ; though lesser than in the perfect Sex. And, besides the Ambiguity of its Sex is diffused over the whole Body of it, in a greater or lesser Degree, as has been before particularized. And upon the whole, it is plain to the Eye, that no Subject now known to the Public, is possest of such exterior distinct Marks of the Male and Female Sexes ; as make it doubtful to which this equivocal Being belongs.

F I N I S.